Tropical Storm Penny (05W)

Tropical Storm (TS) Penny (05W) formed in early August from a persistent mesoscale convective complex over the very warm Philippine Sea in the same manner as TY Otto (04W) the week prior. JTWC issued a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert on 051900Z August as deep convection persisted and a surface cyclone began to develop. JTWC issued its first warning on TS Penny at 060900Z August with maximum sustained winds of 25 kt.

As with TY Otto (04W), the midtropospheric subtropical ridge was the primary steering influence for TS Penny (05W) during the cyclone's northwestward movement toward Luzon Island and subsequent passage across the South China Sea and into southern China.

It took 36 hours for the tropical depression to reach tropical storm intensity. This intensification occurred at 071200Z August, just prior to the cyclone making landfall over northern Luzon. Interaction with mountainous terrain temporarily weakened TS Penny to tropical depression strength but, after 18 hours, the cyclone reintensified to tropical storm strength and reached a maximum intensity of 60 kt during its South China Sea passage.

TS Penny made a second landfall in southern China near Zhanjiang at approximately 110000Z August, where associated heavy rainfall contributed to widespread flooding. Maximum sustained winds were estimated at 35 kt when JTWC issued its eighteenth and final warning at 110900Z August.

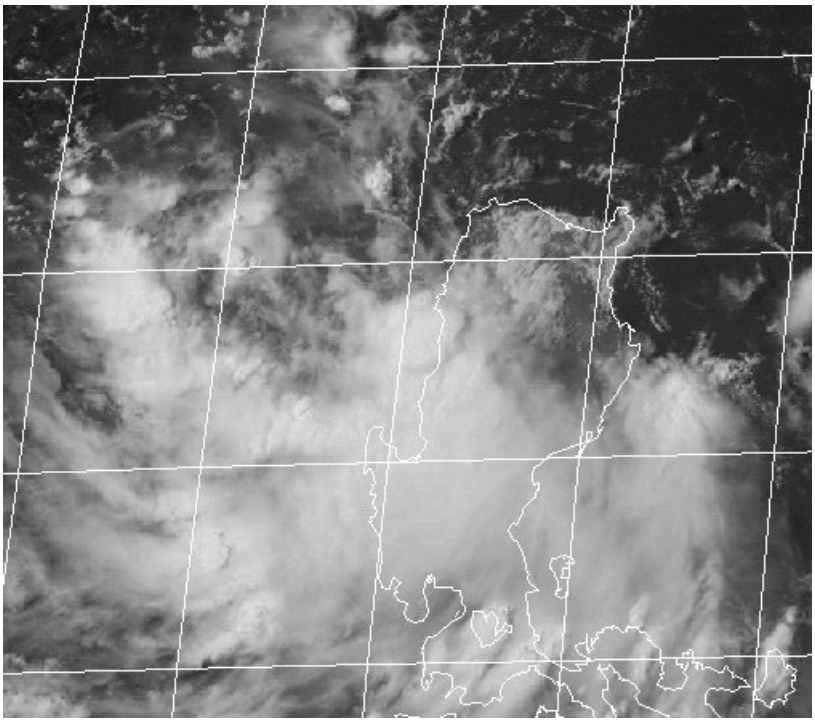

Figure 3-05-1. 080700Z August GMS-5 visible image of TS Penny crossing Luzon.

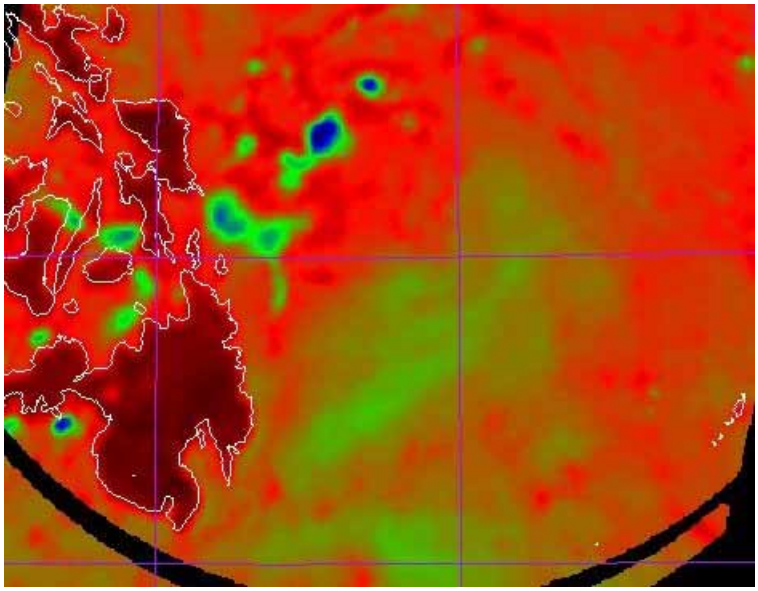

Figure 3-05-2. 060019Z August DMSP microwaveimage of TS Penny during its formative stages.